

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: TCWP

1. SUMMARY: TRADE COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY REVIEWED SECRETARIAT'S PAPER ON COPPER SCRAP AND HAD INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION OF FURTHER ANALYTICAL WORK THAT MIGHT BE DONE. TCWP WILL PROBABLY NOT MEET AGAIN ON THIS QUESTION BEFORE THE SPRING OF 1977. END SUMMARY

2. COPPER SCRAP: WORKING PARTY WENT OVER SECRETARIAT'S PAPER (TC/WP(76)8 AND MADE NUMBER OF TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS. MAIN POLICY QUESTION DISCUSSED WAS REASON WHY SOME COUNTRIES, LIKE EC, HAD FOUND IT NECESSARY TO CONTROL EXPORTS OF COPPER (AND OTHER) SCRAP FOR DECADES. EC EXPLANATION CENTERED AROUND HIGH DEPENDENCE OF COPPER MANUFACTURING SECTOR ON SCRAP AND "GEOGRAPHICAL FACTORS", I.E. EASE OF TRANSPORT AND LOCATION OF IMPORTANT SCRAP CONSUMPTION CENTERS NEAR EC BORDERS. EC COMMISSION REP WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT
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HAD HAPPENED TO SCRAP TRADE WHEN CONTROLS HAD BEEN

REMOVED WITHIN EC. HE INDICATED HOWEVER THAT COMMISSION WAS KEENLY AWARE OF DISINCENTIVE WHICH EXPORT CONTROLS POSED FOR GREATER USE OF RECYCLED SCRAP AND SAID EC EXPORT QUOTAS SHOWED UPWARD TREND. SWEDES CLAIMED "RECIPROCITY" WAS A MAJOR FACTOR IN THEIR MAINTENANCE OF CONTROLS. US DEL URGED THAT SUMMARY TABULATIONS OF SECRETARIAL PAPER SHOULD INDICATE MORE CLEARLY THE STRICTLY TEMPORARY NATURE OF THE CONTROLS WHICH SOME COUNTRIES, E.G. THE US, HAD IMPOSED. SECRETARIAT WILL DO SOME REDRAFTING AND REISSUE STUDY.

3. FUTURE WORK: ONLY EC COMMISSION REP (HOULISTON) SHOWED ANY INTEREST IN FURTHER ANALYTICAL WORK, AND HE HAD NO VERY SPECIFIC PROPOSAL. IN END SECRETARIAT SAID IT WOULD PREPARE MATRIX SHOWING RELATIONSHIP OF MEASURES, TECHNIQUES, AND PRODUCT GROUPS TO AID GROUP IN CONSIDERING AT AN APPROPRIATE FUTURE TIME WHERE FURTHER WORK MIGHT BE USEFUL. THERE WAS NO ENTHUSIASM FOR WORK ON THIRD COUNTRIES' MEASURES, AND COMPARISON OF EXPORT CONTROL LEGISLATION WAS POSTPONED PENDING SUBMISSION BY A LARGER NUMBER OF COUNTRIES OF THEIR LAWS. GROUP AGREED IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO CONTINUE UPDATING INVENTORY (TC/WP(76)3). QUESTION ALSO AROSE AS TO WHETHER PARAMETERS OF PRESENT INVENTORY (I.E. EXCLUSION OF VRA'S, PURELY ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES, NON-ECONOMIC MEASURES, AND MEASURES RELATING TO OIL AND OIL PRODUCTS,) MIGHT BE REVIEWED, BUT NO DECISION WAS TAKEN. (COMMENT: WHILE THERE WOULD SEEM NO POINT IN RELAXING FIRST THREE OF THESE, HAVING INVENTORY COVER OIL AND OIL PRODUCTS, EXCLUSION OF WHICH WAS DECIDED IN NOV. 1973 AT HEIGHT OF OIL CRISIS, WOULD MAKE IT MORE ACCURATE.)
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